PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH'S NEW YEAR POEM

This Spring will by far outshine all the past springs The tidings of battles won will spread elation

South and North will vie in Tighting U.S. foe Our total triumph is an assurance double with

VIETNA

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rom Jan. 29 to Feb. 26, 1968

HEROIC SOUTH VIET NAM WON TREMENDOUS, ALL-SIDED VICTORIES CHANGING WHOLE ASPECT OF WAR

- * Nearly All Parts of Countryside and Many Urban Areas Placed Under People's Control; 1,200,000 More People Freed; Revolutionary Rear Base Considerably Expanded.
- * More Than 290,000 Enemy Troops Put out of Action or Disbanded (Including 20,000 U.S. and Satellite Troops and 70,000 Puppet Soldiers Killed, Wounded or Captured).
- * Important Portion of Enemy Military Potential Destroyed.
- * Shattering Blows Dealt at Puppet Army and Administration.
- *Enemy "Pacification Programme" Reduced to Nothing.

(THIRD SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ OF P.L.A.F. COMMAND)



P.L.A.F. night assault

II.S. COVERNMENT MUST BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTINUATION OF WAR

CILLOWING the statements of Jan. 28, 1957, and Dec. 29, 1957, do Jan. 28, 1957, and Dec. 29, 1957, do J.R.V.N. Foreign Minister Ngolve Day Trinh to the AFP correspondent between the D.R.V.N. and the United States. It once again made clear the between the D.R.V.N. and the United States. It once again made clear the state of the Democratic of the Democra

MILITANT SOLIDARITY OF VIET NAM. CAMBODIA AND LAOS PEOPLES IN STRUGGLE AGAINST U.S. AGGRESSION

HREE years ago, on March I, 1965, on the initiative of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, the clearsighted head of state of Cam-bodia, the Indo-Chinese Peodee! Conference was convene n Pnom Penh, capital of the

The success of this conference marked a substantial advance in the development advance in the development of the friendly relations and militant solidarity of the peoples of Viet Ham, Cambodia, and Laos. The conference met the demand and aspirations of the three peoples—namely the strengthening of relations of fraternal neigh-bourhood on the basis of equality, mutual understandequality, mutual understand-ning and respect, sincere and long-standing co-operation in order to guide their countries onto the path of development appropriate to each of them. In the jubilant atmosphere

created by the brilliant vic-tories won early this spring in both parts of the country, the Vietnamese people made a solemn occasion of the third anniversary colebrations of the Indo-Chinese Peoples'

A grand meeting was held on Feb. 28, 1968 in Hanoi by the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front. Hoang Quoc Viet, member of the Central Committee of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, Presidium member of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, President of the Viet Nam Federation of Trade Unions, head of the Delega-tion of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front to the Indo-Chinese Peoples' Conference, delivered the opening speech.

speech.

Then Hoang Minh Giam, Minister of Culture, Presidium member of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front, head of the Delegation of the Afro Asian Solidarity Committee of Viet Nam Feepley to the Indo Chinese Peeple's Conference, made clear the historical significance of the conference and praised the brilliant successes scored by the three Indo-Chinese peoples in the struggle against U.S. imperialist aggression. He also stressed the unshak-

Indo-Chinese peoples to unite with each other in the struggle against the common enemy and for the peace and free-dom of each country.

Minister Hoang Minh Giam

heartily welcomed the un-daunted struggle of the Cam-bodian people against U.S. aggression. He said, "The U.S. imperialists have flouted

U.S. imperialists have nouted the fundamental rights of Cambodia and injured the bonour of her people, but they have received a well-deserved lesson. All the bellicose acts of the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys—violation of

her territory, air space and territorial waters — have been punished and all their hostile

schemes against the Kingdom of Cambodia have been expos-ad. The Vietnamese people

Front warmly hail the suc-

cesses won by the Cambodian people and the Khmer Peo-ple's Socialist Community

under the clearsighted leader-ship of Samdech Head of

their struggle for independ-

prosperous country."

ence, peace, neutrality and territorial integrity and the building of Cambodia into a

Minister Hoang Minh Giam then condemned the U.S. imperialists' crimes and new

adventures in Laos and lauded the brilliant victories of the Lao people and armed forces. He said, "The Us.

Norodom Sihanouk in

The Vietnamese people Viet Nam Fatherland

imperialists are throwing more and more puppet troops and up-to-date planes of various types including strategic B.52s into nibbling and devasitating attacks on the liberated sreas in Laoz. They openly make use of Thailand's territory and Thai The Minister of Culture The Minister of Culture pointed out, "Over the past three years, history has witnessed the development of the monolithic militant solidarity and close relations of friendly neighbourhood of our three peoples. Their unanimous and resolute condemnation of U.S. aggression in Vice New interception and lackeys to intervene militarily lackeys to intervene militarily in Lace. They are even contemplating to send G.I.'s to Lace for direct aggression. Under the leadership of the Neo Lac Haksat, headed Neo Lao Hahrat, beaded by Princs Souphanquyong, the Lao people and armed forces have wor'd brilliant victories and wiped out many enemy troops. They have shot down a large number of American aircraft and consolidated their liberated areas. The Viet Nam, intervention and sabotage activities in Laos and threat against Cambodia, and their mutual staunch and their mutual staunch support for their respective just struggle, testify to their common grim determination and constitute a great inspiration for each of them. Every success achieved by the people of one country in national defence and construction is a source of joy and pride for the other two. their liberated areas. The resounding victories scored early this year at Nam Bac, Muoog Ngan, marked a new, growth of the Lao patriotic armed forces and people."

armed forces and people."
Hoang 'Mith Giam also emphasized the determination of the Visitamenes people to do their best to bring into full play the success of the Indo-Chinese Peoples' Conference and fight shoulder to shoulder with the Cambodian and Lao peoples against the common enemy — U.S. importailer.

The participants in the meeting unanimously passed a resolution condemning U.S. a resource concenning cis-aggression against the three Indo-Chinese states and re-affirm their wholebearted support to the peace and neutrality policy of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the patriotic struggle of the Lao people.

On this occasion, Nhan Dan, central organ of the Viet Nam Workers' Party, and other papers in Hanoi have editorially commented on the paramount significance of the Indo-Chinese Peoples' of the Indo-Chinese Peoples Conference and praised the brilliant successes won by the three peoples in their struggle sgainst U.S. imperial-tar zerression. The Central ist aggression. The Central Committee of the Viet Nam Fatherland Pront has put up ratherland Front has put up an exhibition of pictures on the splidarity of the Indo-Chinese peoples in their struggle against U.S. impaStates and to have consoli-dated the Saigon regime which controlled, according to American figures. 67 per cent of the country's terri-

But what has become of that famous "government," that Saigon administration, since the events of the last few weeks?

Its hundreds of thousands of agents, soldiers and po-licemen had seen nothing.

where American presence is less important, or is non-existent?

existent?

The puppet administration
has vanished into thin air, or
disintegrated, not only in
mountain and rural regions,
but also in many towns and
cities. One-third of the puppet
army have been put out of army have been put out of action, mostly through the disbandment of many units. Large numbers of men and officers have crossed over to the side of the people's

Even at the time when it could secure the belp of a not yet dismembered puppet administration and army the American expeditionary corps was suffering one defeat after another. Now that the puppet army and adminis-tration which, unable to assume military duties, are supposed to serve as the

THE END OF A MYTH

heard nothing known nothing of the preparations made by the N.F.L., whose attacks were launched with the heip of important strata of the population. A veritable foreign body within the nation, eign body within the nation, with no roots in it, feeding solely on American surpluses, the Thieu-Ky regime, its army and its administration, have broken down like a rotten tree in a storm.

What has remained of it? what has remained of it?
A Resier correspondent in a Feb. 21 despatch from Da Nang reported that of the 2,000 civillan agents of the puppet regime in Thua Thien vince, the major part had province, the major part had disappeared, 300 were to be tried on charges of treason, threatened with death sen-tences by the Thieu-Ky clique, and the few that remained were completely out of heart, and the Amer-ican "advisers" were unable to raise the morale of those still hanging on to their coat-tails. Such is the situation in a region where puppet administration puppet administration is ahored up by a very strong American militury implan-tation — more than 100,000 men in the area from Hue to the 17th parallel. What about villages, provinces, localities

eves and ears of the Amereyes and ears of the American troops, are melting away, what can the U.S. Command do, except work out plans and mount operations in the dark and head for new disasters? The great Tes outbreak and the revolutionoutbreak and the revolution-ary offensive that followed have had not only political consequences but also mi-litary repercussions of the greatest importance.

THE disruption of the puppet regime came as no surprise to those who know its true nature. HE disruption of the

To impose in Saigon a government which is but an echo of the White House has been the constant policy of Washington, a policy successively carried out b Eisenhower, through big military and financial "aid," Kennedy, through "special warfare" and Johnson, military and financial "sid," special warfare " and Johnson, through "special warfare." Relying on its domineering position, the United States had thought it could set up for a "finend" and present its aggression as a " elections, constitutions, cere-monies, parades—everything has been brought into play has been brought into play in order to give a national and democratic facade to a puppet regime controlled by American advisers on the military, financial and polit-

ical planes.

Thieu and Ky are only the last of a long list of "presidents" and "premiers" whose only "legitimacy" lies in their being installed by Washington. In the eyes of the Vietnamese people, the embrace accorded feguyen Cao Ky at Honolulu in February 1966 had no more value than the praise bestowed by McNa-mara on Nguyen Khanh in March 1964 or the message of support sent by Eisenhewer to Ngo Dinh Diem in 1954. ton solicitude only stress the anti-national character of its puppets. Who are Diem, Khanh, Thieu, Ky and their like? None other than men who have taken service with the French colonialists before

VIET NAM COURIER

IN THE U.S.A.

ON Feb. 14, more than 2,000 Americans dem-onstrated in front of the U.S. mission to the United Nations in New York then proceeded to the Ham-marskjold Square before the U.N. Headquarters and staged a meeting for an end to the U.S. aggressive war in

DEMONSTRATION

There, Dave Dellinger, one of the anti-war leaders, declar-ed that this action aimed at rousing the masses into stronger protest against con-tinuation of the criminal war in Viet Nam.

Reverend Daniel Berrigan, just back from Hanoi, told the crowd of the D.R.V.N. government's good will in seeking a settlement of the Viet Nam problem and the

Progressive Americans Step Up Struggle Against Viet Nam War

lohnson administration's allout effort to distort the truth about it.

The demonstrators put up such slogans as "Stop bomb-ing, stop shelling the D.R.V.N.", "Bring our G.I.'s back home!" and others sternly condemning the war-mongering policy of the U.S. government. They also dis-played N.F.L. flags.

On the same day in New York the "Fellowship of Reconciliation," an American organization, issued a state-ment demanding an end to the aggressive war and condemning the U.S. support for puppet regimes in Saigon. The statement included the following slogans: "Stop sending American boys to Viet Nam to kill and to be killed !", "Bring our Loys home!"

U.S. STUDENTS STAY OFF FROM VIET NAM WAR

EPRESENTATIVES of student organizations in five U.S. universities:

Harvard. Vale. Columbia. Brown, Darmouta, recently declared they preferred to sit in jail rather than serve in the U.S. army in Viet Nam.

Voicing the indignation of American youths at the U.S. Government's aggressive policy towards Viet Nam and protesting against the sending of G.I.'s to Viet Nam, they said. "The present drafting system places many students before the alternative of listening to their conscience or renouncing U.S. citizenship.

(Continued bare 7)

U.S. Imperialists and

Their Lackeys Will Have

To Pay for Their Crimes

O N Feb. 15, 1968, the South Viet Nam N.F.L. Control Committee issued a statement strongly condomning the U.S. imperialists and

condemning the U.S. imperialists and their lackey's bloody crimes against the people in various South Vielnamese cities and towns. After describing this deeds as feasitic convolutions caused by their hoopy setbachs, the statement read:

casual by their heavy schools, the statement real:

"Their bombs, and poines gas have billed or
caused serious injuries to thousands of civilians,
mostly women, children and old folks. The
casualities included Buddhist believers and asiders and personnel of the puppet array land
soldiers and personnel of the puppet array land
soldiers and personnel of the puppet array land
soldiers and personnel of the puppet array land
the Thieu-Ky clique have even capitalized on the
the Thieu-Ky clique have even capitalized on the
difficulties they' themselves have caused to our
comparison to step up house eviction, concentration of people, and troop presagning. They
and peace lovers and harsh oppressive measures
against people of all strata; in areas still under
their temporary control. They have also hypocrically staged the "relief" farce which is actually
approved the most of the state of the stratage
prevent them from organizing mutual help.

"The more crimes the U.S. and Thieu-Ky
"The more crimes the U.S. and Thieu-Ky

"The more crimes the U.S. and Thiou-Ky "The more crimes the U.S. and Thiou-Ky clique communt, the bitterer the hatred the urban people, the people of South Viet Nam as a whole and the entire Vietnamese people feel for them and the stronger their unity and their distermination to fight and lead their struggle against U.S. aggression, for national salvation to complete

"Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom! No brutal force on earth can put out the flames of struggle now blazing in South Vietnamese cities and rural areas."

The N.F.L. called on the entire South Vietnam-ese people to rests on, in the impetus of their victory, with the resolve to light and to win, to deal still harder blows at the enemy and to make the criminals pay for their crimes.

It also called on the governments and people of

It also called on the governments and people of the socialist countries, of the nationally inde-pendent countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America and of other countries, on the prograssive people in the U.S., the international peace and democratic organizations and on the intellectuals

amorratic organisations and on the intelectuals and progressive personalities in the world to denounce the criminals and check them in time

and jurther step up the movement in support of the Vietnamese people's resistance until complete

N.F.L.: STAY THE BLOODY HANDS OF L.B. JOHNSON AND HIS SAIGON PUPPETS!

Statement of the Consequent of the Democratic Populic of Vist Nam on the U.S. appressors and their agents. Thiru . Ky's bloody crimes against South Vietnamese townstolk,

THE new revolutionary upsurge of the people and revolutionary armed forces in South and revolutionary armed forces in South and their agents Thies-ty, into an extremely critical situation. An important part of the U.S. and puppet effectives has been wiped out, big the puppet administration has fallen apart and is paralysed, the aggressive will of the U.S. pirates has been dealt a heavy blow. In only a the South have wen upprecedented victories in the South have won unprecedented victories in the resistance war against U.S. aggression, for national salvation waged by the whole Vict-

As the Saigon regime is facing total collapse the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen Thisu-Key are frantically committing crimes of utmost savagery against the people of South Viet Nam, especially in towns and cities which not lone ago they still regarded as the safest and most endable sanctuaries.

They have subjected to barbarous air and They have subjected to barbarous air and artillery bombardments numerous cities provincial capitals and district towns such as Saigon, thue, Da Nang, Ban Me Thuot, Pleiku, by Tho, Can Tho, Ben Tre, Viba Long, etc.. Their thugs have massacred many people.

In Hue, the U.S. aggressors have even used napalm bombs, toxic gas, and phosphorous shells and bombs against the civilian population. The Thies-Ky pupper administration has ruthlessly persecuted those who wish for national peace, independence and registant.

sneepencence and response,
As a result of the U.S.-puppet savagery,
thousands of civilians have been killed, thousands
of civilians basee been such a construction of civilians because destroyed, a number of provthousands of people have been made homeless,
numerous heepitiats, schools, temples, paged,
historical monuments and ancient artistic works
of the nation have been reduced to rubble.

These monstrous crimes have laid bare the ruthless nature of the U.S. aggressors and their agents Thieu-Ky. They were desperate efforts of the invaders and the traitors in face of the danger of inescapable defeat.

These crimes constitute an insolent offence against the ethics and conscience of mankind, acts of vandalism against the traditional values of national culture, a violation of the principles of international law, and a grave break of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. However, American bombs will never succeed in subduing the Vietnamese people. The more frenied crimes the U.S. aggressors and the Thies. Ty clique the U.S. aggressors and the Thies. Ty clique in the South and in other parts of Viet Nam feel or them. The beroic South Vietnamese armsy and people will certainly inflict on them still harden punishment. The people of Southern towas did not client in closely co-ordinated actions with the armed force, will resolutely fish on and win armed forces, will resolutely fight on and win further victories. The army and people in the big Northern rear will further stiffen their determination to defeat the U.S. imperialists' war of destruction in the North, and, shoulder to shoulder with their Southern kith-and-kin compatriots, they will bring the struggle against U.S. aggression. for national salvation to complete victory

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam unreservedly supports the February 15, 1968 Statement of the Central Committee of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, and the February 18, 1968 open letter of Professor Le Van Hao, President of the Front of Alliance for National Independence, Democracy and Peace in Hue City, and strongly denounces to public opinion at home and abroad the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys' monstrous crimes against South Vietnamese townsfolk.

The Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam earnestly calls on the governments and peoples of the Traternal socialist countries, on all peace and justice-loving countries, peace on all peace - and justice-toving countries, peach and democratic organizations, and all sees of conscience in the world to sternly condemn the U.S. aggressors and the Thieu-Ky clique, to keep'their bloody hands off the people of South Victnamese towns and clites, and to extend increased support in all fields to the just flight of the Victnamese people until their complete or the Victnamese people until their complete

The entire Victnamese people spurred on by a deep hatred for the U.S. imperialists and the Thieu - Ky clique are successfully forging ahead with the grim resolve to fulfil their glorious task which is to defend the North, liberate the South, and advance towards the peaceful reunification of

Hanoi, February 25, 1068

President of Alliance in Hue Sends Letter to Heads of State and U Thant

The following are exterpts from a letter sent by Prof. La Van Hao on Feb. 18 to the heads of various countries in the world and U Thant, Secretary General of the United Nations. Prof. Le Van Han is President of the Front of Alliance for National Independence, Democracy and Peace in Hue. This Front came into being on Jan. 31, 1068 in the midst of the simultaneous uprisings of the people of Hus and other South Vietnamese cities. It consists of patriotic and revolutionary forces struggling for the overthrow of the Thieu-Ky puppet administration, the setting up of a national coalition government, the withdrawal of U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and the holding of consultations with the N.F.L. with a view to settling the internal affairs of the South Vistnamese prople. Le Van Hao is also President of the People's Revolutionary Committee of Thua Thien province and Hue city, the tivet administrating stouchurs provincial level of the South Vietnamese people.

VIET NAM COURIER

SINCE January 31st, 1968 aircraft, warships and artillery of the U.S. armed forces have been repeatedly bombing and shelling Hue city. Napalm and and shelling Hise city. Napaim and gas bombe and other kinds of lethal weapons of the U.S. have been raining without let-up on many heavily populated quarters inside the city where a new weeks ago the population living under the rule of the Saigon puppets rose up to puppet regime and win back indeleace and freedom.

Reality in Hue as well as in Saleon and other cities and towns of South Viet Nam has given the urban people in South Viet Nam a clearer picture than ever of the savage and extremely odious colonialist character of the war which the Johnson administration has been conducting in the rural areas of our country. At the same time it has country. At the same time it has also driven home the people of Huc city in a more vivid way that the words "independence" and "peace" so possily advertised by the U.S. government to mask its aggressive war in Viet Nam are mere deceits.

President Johnson's destruction and massacre had made the inhabi-tants of Hue realize more clearly that what he calls "independence and "peace" are actually slavery and aggressive war.

For more than two weeks now, the people in the world have seen how the inhabitants of Hue have been rejecting the American-style "independence" and "peace."

.. We are standing unflinchingly under the savage shellings and bomb-ings by the U.S. - puppet clique. This proves that the pupper administration is merely a gang of mili-/ tarists in the pay of the U.S. aggressors and are completely alienated from the rest of the Vietnamese people, including the urban population

... On behalf of the people of Hue, a city well-known to the world for its palaces, citadel and other historic monuments we denounce to Your Excellency and world opinion the utterly barbarous crimes of the U.S. government and the U.S. and puppet armed forces. These beinous offences

are reminiscent of those of the Ger man fascists who, in their pangs of death, savagely devastated so many

Justice-upholding and equitable opinion and all men of conscience in the world cannot remain indifferent to these destardly crimes of the U.S. Just as the destruction of Lidice, Oradour and other places failed to save Hitler from ignominious defeat the savage acts of the Johnson administration against the people of Hue and other cities in South Viet n cannot ward off U.S. complete failure.

It is our hope that, for the sake of justice, freedom and world peace, Your Excellency will raise your voice to demand that the U.S. government to demand that the U.S. government stop at once its acts of destruction and massacre in Hue and all other cities in South Viet Nam, put an end to its aggressive war in Viet Nam, withdraw all its troops from South Viet Nam, respect the right of the South Vietnamese people to self-determination, and refrain from in-terfering in their revolution aimed at overthrowing the Thieu-Ky puppet administration.

For their part, the people of Hue for their part, the people of rule city are determined to unite closely with all other patriotic forces in Viet Nam and with all the 14 million South Vietnamese people to achieve at south Vietnamese people to achieve at all costs an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral South Viet Nam. We are certain that no force can shake this iron determination of our people ...

THAT YELDOWN TARE Welcome Spring 1968!

Brothers and sisters ! Raise high your guns, hail Spring 1968 ! Spring of brave hearts.

Who comes there, brimming with Spring? Huerak Liberation tichter ! Salute to Von the finest of fine men!

History hugs you, bare-footed lad Who tires fearless, dauntless, on earth, Thach Sanh (s) of the 20th century, Falling on the U.S. aggressors even with a bow or a sharp bamboo spike.

Not looking at yourself, you will never know, O valiant fighter! In the fire continents, truth is watching

Your marching sithouette... and your hat That looks like a water lentil.

O soft canvas hat, as locable as a little hand, That does not even hurt a leaf on its bough. That skines on the lighter's head like a patch of blue sky, That rampages here and there, right and left, irresistible, Stronger than all the bombs and bullets, frightening even the Pentagon !

Aug beab higher Than that hat of revolutionary heroism? Thanks to our Party; it has brought us light, But has given us a soul and a heart

May I ash: has the Truone Son (2)

That know what is visht, how to love, and how to hate, How to torge ahead, and win battles!

What a joy today ! This Spring morning Off we go, our hearts flying, on the wings Ot each cloud, of each sust of wind, The North wind that is blowing South! O winds and clouds, don't wait for the Spring sun's

And the troops streaming towards the frontline ...

Our Estherland ! Tuesdo, these were of hardchi he and sufferings of enduring fighting Forward!

Our total triumph is an assurance double sure ! (3) O peoply at home and all over the world and jar-off

Uncle Ho is calling. Spring is coming ...

Hurrah heroic Spring of 1068 ! Let all our commons thunder !

And you, leaviers lighters, forward ! With the magnificant mettle of the Trans. Les (4), with the aucsome impetus of Quang Trung (5) Everywhere, in the towns and in the countryside. Couch the Vanhe and the intidels !

For Independence and Freedom, for our majestic mountains and tumultuous streams. For the sacred values of Man.

For the flowers and leaves to remain for over fresh and

We shall win - And wrest the most beautiful Spring !

Translated by Tean Van Chuong

(1) A legendary peasant hero of Viet Nam who killed a monster eagle and saved the royal princess.

(1) The Long Range running along most of Viet Nam's length.

(3) Quoted from President Ho Chi Minh's New Year's poem; 1958.

(4) Quoted from President Ho Chi Minh's New Year's poem; 1958.

(4) and (5) Tran Hung Dao, Le Lei, and Nguyen Hoe, three is the greatest national heroes of Viet Nam.

U.S. GOVERNMENT...

(Continued from page 1)

aggression and been subjected to blatant U.S. bombing and strafing. If talks are to be held at all, first of all the U.S. must stop uncondi-tionally the bombing and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. The talks will begin as soon as this uncon-ditional stop has been proved and both sides will discuss questions related to a settlement of the Viet Nam problem on the basis of the 1954 Geneva Agreements and other questions which could be

raised by either side.

Among even U.S. political circles, many well-known figures including Senators Mite Mansfeld, John Shorman Cooper, Eugene McCarthy, Robert Kennedy, etc... have seen the right way to follow and demanded that the Johnson administration stop bombing North Viet Nam so as to get talks started.

In a statement on Feb. 24 on the American Television, U.N. Secretary General U Thant also expressed the conviction that the unconditional end of the bombing and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N. will lead to meaningful talks. On Feb. 26, Swedish Foreign Minister Torsten Nilsson declar ed his agreement with U Thant's view that the talks will take place after the U.S. has ended the bombing of North Viet Nam unconditionally. On Feb. Viet Nam unconditionally. On Feb. 27, the Government of Finland also issued a statement of vietness of the conditional of the condition of the issued a statement pointing out that the cessation of the bombing of North Viet Nam is a pre-condition for the

talks to begin. On Feb. 28, the French Government expressed the view that the unconditional cessation of the bombing of North Viet Namis necessary and sufficient to lead to talks between the D.R.V.N. and the United States.

In disregard of world public opinion which has condemned it and drawing no lesson from its disastrous setback on the South Viet Nam battlefield over recent days, the Johnson administration, how-ever, still shows obduracy. On Feb. 21, at a meeting with U Thant, U.S. President a meeting with U Thant, U.S. President Johnson reiterated that the "San Antonio formula" was a valid formula for the settlement of the Vict Nam problem. On Feb. 25, William Bundy, Assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, declared that the U.S. Government continued to stick to the

This "formula" casentially places the aggressor and the victim of aggresthe aggressor and the victim of aggresion on an equal footing and requires from the Victnamese people a price for U.S. aggression. That price is merely to stop or lessen their atruggle for national liberation.

The Victnamese people and the D.R.V.N. Government firmly reject this insolent condition. For the Victnamese people as well as for world public opinion which cherishes justice, line must be drawn clearly between the aggressor and the victim of aggres-sion. The persistence of the bellicose U.S. aggressors in stepping up the war and the iron will of the Vietnamese people to preserve national independence and freedom should not be confused

and placed on a par.

The Thieu-Ky clique of traitors fostered and directed by the U.S. can in

no way be placed on an equal footing with the South Viet Nam N.F.L., tho sole genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people, who enjoys the sympathy and support of progressive people round the world.

Yet, such a man as British Foreign Secretary George Brown has gone to the length of endorsing the U.S. San Antonio "formula." This shows that the Wilson Government has renounced its capacity as one of the two cochairmen of the Geneva Conference and associated itself with the saboteurs of the Geneva Agreements, namely, the U.S., aggressors.

in the South. So long as the U.S. war maniacs do not give up their aggressive design, the 1st million Vietnamese will continue fighting them, until the U.S. aggressive will is completely shattered.

The position is now clear: the U.S. does not want talks with the D.R.V.N. obes not want cause with the D.R.V.N.
It does not want a peaceful settlement
of the Viet Nam problem. The U.S.
authorities still persist in stopping up
the war of aggression. The responsibility rests entirely with the U.S. The
Vietnamese people cheriah peace, but genuine peace must be established on the basis of real independence. As Pres-ident Ho Chi Minh has stated, for the mese people "nothing is more is than independence and free-For independence and freedom dom." For independence and freedom the Vietnamese people in the South have risen up simultaneously and mounted violent attacks on the lairs of the aggressors and their lackeys. The Vietnamese people in the North-Lations and giving all-out assistance to the great strangle of their kith-md-kin in the South. So long as the U.S. war maniax do not give up their aggressive

equal three-fifths of the total losses in 1967 in aircraft, one-third in armoured cars, and two-fifths in warships or gun-boats. This is a very heavy adverse setback. Their fire power and mobility have been seriously impaired. Their com-bat units in many places are running short of ammunition, food and fuel, and are meeting with enormous difficulties in their movement as well as rescu operations. The U.S. First Air Mobil

HEROIC SOUTH VIET NAM WON TREMENDOUS, ALL-SIDED VICTORIES CHANGING WHOLE ASPECT OF WAR

(THIRD SPECIAL COMMUNIQUÉ OF P.L.A.F. COMMAND)

On Feb. 25, 1968 the Command of the South Viet Nam People's Liberation Armed Forces issued a third special communicad on the victories scored by the people's revolutionary armed forces and people in South Vict Nam since 29, 1968. The communique

"SINCE the night of Jan. 29, 1968 the People's Liberation Armed Forces together with the entire people of South Viet Nam have been continually stepping up their earth-shaking offensive and uprisings hitherto

In less than 30 days and nights our armed forces and people have launched most daring attacks against the enemy most daring attacks against the enemy and staged uprinings in all towns, cities and provincial capitals in South Vist Man, striking accurately at almost all stages and accurately at almost all small, from the central to local level and from Saigon and Hue cities to the provinces, asined control of many places, and the strike of the control of the control of the company again and again and repeatedly beaten off their counter-attacks.

We have recorded very great and

We have wiped out a major part of the enemy's effectives. According to first statistics, we have killed, wounded first statistics, we have killed, wounded or taken prisoner more than 90,000 enemy soldiers including over 20,000 U.S. and astellite troops. Whole adverse units have been wiped out 3 armoured regiments, 39 inflantly, engineering, combat police and motorized transport battalions (mostly infantly battalioned, 8 moliti-battalion armoured units and 120 companies.

This is an extremely great achievement. In only four weeks we put our of action as many enemy troops as in a three-month period of 16%. The number of edemy battalions entirely wiped out equals the average of a nine-month period of 19%, the year of biggest victories compared with any previous year. In face of the general offensive of year. In face of the general out armed forces and people, the puppe sy has disintegrated by big chunks the early days of Feb. 1968, the number of puppet troops disbanded ran igto 200,000. At present, this downhill process is accelerating at an alarming rate and the enemy has no hope to stop it. Most of the pupper militie, regiona forces and police have been disbanded

... We have destroyed a substantial amount of the enemy war means. According to statistics available, we have shot down or destroyed on the ground more than 1,800 aircraft; knocked out more than 1,300 tanks and armoured care and thousands of other military can's and thousands of other military vehicles, sunk or damaged go warships and combat launches; and destroyed millions of tones of bombs, ammunition and fuel of the enemy. This is also an extremely big achievement of our armed forces and people.

The enemy losses in four weeks

Cavalry Division has been left with only half of its normal aircraft strength.

What the enemy regard as their tem get points and actually constitutes the main props of their troops has thus been badly hit. As a consequence been badly hit. As a consequence, the morale of U.S., pupper and satellite troops has dropped to a new low.

We have dealt shattering blows at the puppet administrative system and

The puppet regime of the Thieu-Ky chique or traitors at the central oval has come under heavy attacks and in being paralysed and disarrayed. The puppet administration at the provincial and district levels is also in a moribund reactionary organizations in almost all the villages and hamlets have been in the willages and nambets have been in the main wiped out. We have destroyed, captured or forced the enemy to withdraw from more than 700 posts and watch-towers. We have completely mashed the "rural pacification" plan which was so with to the enemy, 1,00,000 nurse of our people have been 1,000,000 nurse of our people have been 1,000 nurse of our peo liberated from their grip Our people have won the control of

the most part of the vast rural area and setting up revolutionary power at all levels. The Thua Thien – Hue People's Revolutionary Committee has come into cial and municipal people's administra-tive organ. This is another extremely great success of ours. Our rear, a perma-nent factor of our victory, and our resistance bases have been considerably expanded, attenting from the Long Rauge and the immense Western High Plabaux down to the vast plains of Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces and of Central Trung Bo (Central Ivel Nam), and from the mountain regions of Eastern Nam Bo down to the Plain of Reeds and the immense Melsong Delta. Our mannown ance bases have been considerabl Our manpower and material res

have increased quickly and steadily The puppet administration, one of the main props of U.S. neo-colonialism, is now merely a decaying tree on the point of being felled down by the revolutions storm of our armed forces and people. The rear of the racmy which is their ase and source of manpower and mate

In short, we have won successes of very important strategic significance both militarily and politically. The U.S.-puppet clique are suffering very heavy losses which can be hardly remedied. They have dismally failed in been long trying to achieve such as "search and destroy" the South Viet Nam People's Armed Forces, "pacify" the countryside, build up the puppet administration, consolidate the puppet army. From now on, their situ having become many times more difficult, they will have still a sienderer chance to realize their aims. To divert public attention from their defeats and intimidate the Vietnamese people, the U.S.-puppets have used bombs and shells, toxic gas and noxious chemicals against our people and burned down many dwelling houses, thus rendering tens of thousands of people homeless. Just while they are massacring our people and reducing their houses to ashes, the cruel and cowardly pirates call for "relief" for those whose relatives are the very victims of their

They want to put the blame on others, but their savage and vile deeds are unmistakable for our people. Neither can their bombs and shells cow our people. Like pouring oil on the flame, they only embitter our people's hatred which will come down like thunderbolts upon their heads. They will certainly have to repay ten times for their crimes. Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom, nothing can shake our people's determination to light until victory, to die rather than live in slavery.

The glorious victories of our armed forces and people have given rise to a
new situation on the battlefield which is particularly favourable to us and unfe-rourable to the enemy.

Never before have the enemy forces been so weakened as now, in terms of organization, morale, effectives as well as material build-up. The puppet, U.S.

... In addition to the units totally wiped out, all the remaining American

Mrs. Nguyen Thi Dink, P.L.A.F. Deputy Commander-in-Chief, and P.L.A.F. women fighters,



units are now understrength. Many U.S. Marine battalions have lost half of their manpower. The 173rd Paratroop tives. The 1st and 25th Divisions, the 1st Air Mobile Cavalry Division and Americal Division have suffered heavy losses.

All the puppet units are alarmingly understrength. At least more than 30 per cent of the main force puppet battalions have either been wiped out or heavily decimated, among them 8 the 15 general reserve battalions Four paratroop battalions - the and, 5th, 7th and 9th - are left with only about 100 men each. Some divisions such as the 1st, 5th and 7th have been badly mauled. Some regiments and dozens of battalions have lost their combat strength.

At present, the puppets are hastily drafting youths into the army and throwing them into battle. This obthrowing them into battle. This obviously cannot increase the fighting power of the puppet troops but will only render them more disparate. The U.S. is dispatching one more brigade and one more regiment to South Viet Nam but how can they hope to extinguish a beatifier with a few cupfuls of water ?

Never has our force been so powerful as now, both in the frontline and in the rear area, both in number and in

Never has the enemy's field array been so confused and so bad as now. Their losing position, passiveness and weakening, is in the ever most critical state. After sustaining bitter setbacks during two "dry-season counter- offensives " and in the process of the implementation of their "two-prong" plan in 1967, since the beginning of this year the U.S. aggressors were gradually switching to the defensive on all battlefronts and were forced to carry on their vicious "two-prong

But the offensive and simultaneous uprisings of our armed forces and peo-ple have completely upset their strategic plans and their field array. Their 1968 ns and schemes went bankrupt even before they were given a start. The enemy's defensive posture has been broken. They are forced to pull back their forces from other places to cope with attacks in areas much more important for them, that is the towns and cities and a number of important comnunication axes. The war has flared up the very last dens of the enemy Their battleground which has already been narrowed down is split up, encircled and attacked from all sides.

Never has our winning position, initia-tive and offensive been promoted to so high a degree and so steady as now. Our frontline is encircling the enemy's key positions so far regarded by them as the most secure. We have mounted attacks deep into their rear in the towns and cities including Saigon and Hue, and cast a wide net around the enemy in the towns and cities. Behind frontline is a firm rear area which em-braces the vast rural, jungle and mountain areas controlled by the people and constitutes a source of inexhaustible strength for us to win victory.

Never have the enemy experienced so serious a political decline and decay as now. The 'constitutional government of the clique of traitors is controlling nobody and is like a flickering light in a hurricane. The so-called 'Anti-Com-munist People's National Salvation Front' recently created by the U.S. im-perialists in the part of Saigon city still

under their temporary control cannot fool anybody nor conceal the isplation of the traitors who were notorious henchmen of the French colonialists and language (ascists and are now serving U.S. imperialists. Whatever camouflave it may be given this organization ins an anti-popular and abortive creature. The genuine patriots take no notice of it and hold it in utter con-tempt. It is also a political trick closely connected with the U.S. imperialists' policy to change horses midstream.

No better than the clique of traitors the U.S. aggressors have become more and more isolated in face of public opinion at home and in the world. The sharp contradictions within the ranks of the U.S. aggressors, the fierce strifes within the Thieu-Ky clique of traitors U.S. aggressors and the puppets and the atellites have become more and more critical. The aggressive will of the U.S. aggressors is workening.

Never before has the unrivalled politi cal and moral superiority of our armed forces and people reached such a high and been turned into so powerful a material force as now.

Our armed, forces and people, united our armed forces and people, univer-millions like one man, are living excit-ing days of victory. They are filled with confidence and a greater resolve than ever to rise up and overthrow the enemy

Millions of people have courageously taken to the streets to directly confront the enemy, and formed combat units equipped with arms captured from the enemy. The political contingent of our people has become a mighty force more xperienced than ever.

...The radiant prestige of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the organizer and promoter of all victo-ries of the South Vietnamese people, is on the rise.

The workers, peasants and other labouring people are playing the role of shock units in the current offensive and uprisings of our people.

Progressive personalities, intellectuals, Progressive personalities, intellectuals, students, pupils, youth, women, business-men and people of other walks of life are actively contributing to the cause of national independence.

The Alliance of National Forces Independence and Peace in Saigon, the Front of Alliance for National Independ-ence, Democracy and Peace in Hue, ence, Democracy and Peace in Hue, and many other patriotic organizations have come into being and are aiding with the entire people to step up the struggle for national liberation.

Our kith-and-kin in North Viet Nam and are constantly encouraging the struggle of the armed forces and people in South Viet Nam.

Our people's resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation is enjoying the warmest and greatest sympathy and support from the socialist camp and the entire progressive man-kind including the progressive American

We are being provided with the most favourable conditions and the firmest bases to achieve our aims.

Our position and strength is growing like the radiant rising sun.

The enemy position and strength is flickering like a dying flame. We shall certainly win complete

The enemy are doomed to complete

secondary vocational school.

Women's participation in administrative and political

functions has greatly increased

VIETNAMESE WOMEN IN THE FACE OF AMERICAN AGGRESSION

N December 6, 1967 in Quang Binh, a 19-year-old girl, Nguyen Thi Xuan, shot down an American Phantom jet with 20 rifle bullets. It was a presidents or vice-presidents of agricultural co-operatives, and 84,000 others hold responsible posts in various branches of activity. The percentage of women in 20 rifle bullets. It was a lucky hit, but not an excep-tional one. To date, twelve American jets have been brought down over the factory and State service personnel increased from 28.4 personnel increased from 28.5 per cent in 1955 to 32.5 per cent in 1959. Fortynine per cent of the medical personnel are women. More than 2,000 women are college graduates and 12,000 others have finished brought down over the D.R.V.N. by eleven units of militiawamen

"When the enemy comes, even the women will take to arms" — runs an age-old popular saying. As early as the year 39, the two Trung Sisters raised the banner of resistance to foreign aggression. Ever aisses then, the history of Viet Nam abounds in exploits achieved by her worsen in defence of the motherland. At present, when American aircraft—and American airships in the case of coastal provinces - have brought war to the remotest bamlets, there is no longer any "rear" area. Housewives and even old folks find themselves in the frontline.

And so, in the D.R.V.N., the women have foined in the fight by the hundred of thousand. Those who are unarmed have engaged in first-aid or order - keeping work; they help artillery, missile, engineers' units build combat positions, carry am-munition, learn to handle A.A. guns so as to replace A.A. guns so as to replace gunners wounded or killed in action. The percentage of women membership in peo-ple's militia units rose from 29.5 per cent in 1965 to 33.85 per cent in 1966, and even to o per cent in certain regions Women are also present or communication front ring and building roads bridges, railway tracks, canals dukes, which are being coaselessly pounded by American aircraft.

Women also participate in the national struggle through role played by them in economic and cultural building grows over more important, especially since the start of American aggression. The question is not only to assume production tasks, but also to bring about rapid economic progress, and re-place men at technical and eading posts at all levels Sircumstances have placed on North Vietnamese women's shoulders new responsibilities and forced them to progress in all fields.

In the countryside, 65 per cent of the labour force is made up of women, who take on over heavier responsibilities. At present,

Photos : - Young woman technicians in a Hanoi factory.

- 49 per cent of North Viet Nam medicare personnel are away with prejudiess—in women's as well as mens' minds—which hinder lending the material help to womes with a view to helping them achieve quick progress in all fields. The Viet Nam Women's Union called on the women to tackle these tasks;

- Production work: - Household duties : and - Combat tasks.

In co-operation with the educational services, the Viet Nam Women's Union has opened searly 3,000 special complementary education classes for women to enable classes for women to enable them to assume their new responsibilities. Creches and infant classes have multiplied. In Hai Duong province for instance, 28 per cent of small children are looked after in creches, which exist in 89 per cent of the agricultural cocent of the agricultural co-operatives. In 1956, the number of children attending





American aggression. In 1967, women made up 47-42 per cent and 45-79 per cent respectively of per cent res the number of people elect-ed to village and district People's Councils. Each village or district administrative ommittee now has at least a dent or standing member.

The promotion of women is a policy advocated and practised by the Communist Party of Indo-China—now the Viet Nam Workers' Party ever since its founding in ever since its founding in 1930. It has been growing at the same rate as the political and social struggle, the first resistance war — against French colonialists —, and the ilding of socialism. It has made a big step forward since the start of American agres-sion. In 1965, a campaign was launched to promote women to responsible posts, to do

cent compared with

In vocational schools teach. training schools, universities, women's enrolment is on the upgrade. In certain branches, it makes up more than 50 per cent of total enrolment. Refresher courses and complementary education receive the greatest attention in factories, government of-fices and co-operatives.

In defending their father-land, the women of Viet Nam are fully conscious that they are also defending their right to a fully developed life. If the Viethamese nation were to backslide, they would suffer even more than the men. And so, fighting by the side of their husbands, brothers and sons, they will foil all attempts by the American imperalists to hurl Vietnamese society "back to the Stone Age."

Brave Mothez ot Hue

A ROUSED from sleep by the firing, the American "advisor" jumped out of bed then slipped out of his room for cover, without ever caring to put on his sleepers But in whatever corner he tried he still found himself too conspicuous. At last, he ducked into the W.C. and shut himself up.

By that time a group of Liberation fighters had arrived at the villa which stood in the downtown Ly Thuong Kiet Street, and started searching it thoroughly. But not a single American could be seen anywhere.

An old woman appeared on the scene. Grasping the men's hands, she said, half-laughing. half-weeping: "O sons, how well you fought! They were completely caught off guard. Now let's take a good look. They must be somewhere in this building. "

"Ah, what did I tell you she screamed, pointing at a

car. "They haven't gone

"Who is the owner of that

queried one fighter. "That man himself," the

"And who is that man?"

"Well, you know, the American colonel, the 'ad-visor' of the puppets in this city," the woman said, and went on with her search, which, finally, led her to the It never occurred to her that the Yank would diagrace himself by taking cover in such a place. She seized the door's knob and gave a pull.

" He must be in here lads." she called out suddenly, find-ing that the door was bolted from inside.

"Get out," she ordered. "Get out or I'll bash your head in."

A trembling voice could be hazed from behind the done : "Spare me, please... Spare me, please...#

The Liberation fighters rushed forward and, together with the old mother, drugged the Yank, his face pale with fear, out of his hiding.

"Spare me, please... Spare me, please..." the Yauk kept repeating in Vietnamese, repeating in Victname

REPEATED ATTACKS...

(Continued from page 8)

at the aircraft parking ground, destroying at a time 50 planes of various types and an ammunition dump, causing a big fire. For prestige's sake the enemy immediately buckled down to repairing the runway in an attemp to reopen the traffic at once, but by Feb. 9, AFP remarked that Tan Son Nhat airbase had not yet been put back in operation as scheduled. Westmoreland had to send B. 52 planes to bomb the area surrounding the airfield in order to prevent other attacks by revolutionary forces, but to no avail.

In the flush of their vic-ory, on Feb. 18 at 1 a.m. the revolutionary forces fired hundreds of shells onto the airfield, shaking windowpanes of the city's houses.
Meanwhile, revolutionary
fighters stormed the airfield, putting out of action and capturing hundreds of airmen and technicians. The residence of General Westmoreland was also shelled a J Bunker had to flee in the night. Tan Son Nhat was turned into a sea of flames. As admitted-by UPI, at least seven big

At present, almost daily this airbase was under the P.L.A.F. artillery fire, sometimes two or three times in a day. According to preliminary reports, up to now in this airfield nearly one

soldiers have been killed or wounded, nearly one hundred aircraft of various types and hundreds of thousands of tons of war materiel destroy-The fact that the revolution

ary armed forces were able to mount repeated attacks on Tan Son Nhat airbase separated from downtown Saigon by about ten kilometres only - shows that the noose of people's war was tightening around U.S. and its quislings in Saigon so dangerously that the American brasshats were quoted by AFP on Feb. 19 as saying that the best way to prevent such attacks was to regularly station 200,000 soldiers around Saigon. In such a situation, what would the ron-oor soldiers requested by moreland through Wheeler be able to do for the whole of the South Viet Nam

TO THE BEADER We are aware that there

is much room for improve-ment in the wording of our paper. We apologics or this shortcoming and highly appreciate all your suggestions as they will help us to serve you more afficiently in future.

VIET NAM COURIER

CHAOS IN SAIGON

an attempt to slow down the collapse of the Saigon administration touched off the stormy onslaught of by the stormy enstaught of the South Vietnamese armed forces and people, Bunker and the Thieu-Ky chique have painstakingly created the so-called "Anti-Communist Front of Alliance for National Salvation." Their intention is to use this organization for rallying the reactionary polit-ical forces in Saigon to deal with the unprecedented growth and development of the South Victnamese people's united front against U.S. aggression, and at the same time check the far-reaching impact of the Alliance of impact of the Alliance of National Forces for Inde-pendence and Peace, which merged in the revolutionary emerged in the revolutionary tide sweeping South Viet Nam's towns and cities. They made public a list including the names of intellectuals belong-ing to different opposition parties and presented them as members of the "Front" with the hope of using it to shore up the moribund Saigon regime.

But the list proved a trump-d-up one. According to

A T the beginning of this year dry season, the Lao people and army have won big victories in all battlefields, Pathet Lao Press

During the first three months of the dry season (from November 1967) to the end of January 1968) the Lao

people and army put out of action over 7,000 enemy

They attacked 9 enemy regiment and battalion C.P.'s, many logistic bases, airfields

and important communication

lines, causing heavy losses to

They captured 1,841 fire-

dreds of tons of munitions.

Agency announced

the enemy.

afore-said organization. Can-didates to last year's "presi-dential elections" even strong-ly objected. Many observers in Saigon predict that the move will miscarry in the farther-size days. forthcoming days.

Amidst the disturbances now besetting the pupper administration and with mingivings about eventual dirty tricks on the part of the opposition, the Thieu-Ky junta has arrested many of its leaders, of whom those of the hoatile Buddhist section the students' movement and the legal trade unions.

Thieu and Ky keeps widen-

Wews from

DRY-SEASON FIRST-THREE-

MONTH BALANCE-SHEET

knowledgeable sources in Saigon, many of those listed have refused to adhere to the

paramount strategic significance. In addition to military and political gains the patriots have fundamentally shattered the puppet army and administration, the prop of neo-colonialism in South Vist Nam. This is an open secret revealed by the

Western news reports say that, with Ky's resignation from the presidency of the "National Rehabilitation Committee," the rift between

The above situation illus trate the utter isolation and the unending, ever-increas-ing crisis which plagues the Saigon quisling administra-

Utterly Inept Saigon Administration Has in Fact Collapsed The recent successful P.L.A.F. attacks and popular uprisluos in navious towns and cities of South Viet Nam are of

Western bress as testified by the following excerbts: "No measures taken by Saigon can prevent this dis-integration and the Amelican are witnessing the foundering of the pretext for their pres-ence in South Viet Nam: "The circumstances de-mand that the U.S. end its participation in this hopeless situation. There are three major

FOREIGN OPINION

a so-called representative government has just been toppled, and their military support in South Viet Nam is an army of traitors and mercenaries whose morale and fighting spirit have ever since been very low."

El Moudjahid (Feb. 19, 1968)

"Undiscoverable in the "Undiscoverable in the first 24 hours of the Viet Cong offensive and brought back to Saigon on the insistence of the Americans, the Presiof the Americans, the President of South Viet Nam, General Thieu, like other members of his government, has given a proof of his inef-ficiency... South Viet Nam's military and civilian officials are corrupt. The army has given a poor show. Washing-ton ruling circles affirmed that the [puppet] Government had under its control and had under its control and protection three-quarters of South Viet Nam's population. The Viet Cong offensive has brutally debunked the myth."

France-Soir (Feb. 8, 1968)

69 radio sets and a great quantity of military equip-ment. They also destroyed thousands of firearms, hun-dreds of tons of ammunition, "The Saigon government has utterly failed to earn the confidence of the people. The shot down or destroyed 48 sircraft, sank 9 motor boats, South Vietnamese army has ceased to fight." destroyed 27 military vehicles. blew up 3 bridges, set affre 2 petrol dumps, 4 ammunition storages and many other war

Stephen Young (UPI, Feb. 27, 1968)

A dozen enemy posts and military positions illegally set up in the liberated zones "The Saigon political struc-ture is no stronger today than it was three years ago in the sense of being able on its own to govern, to defend or to rally the people of South Viet Nam." up in the liberated somes were rared to the ground. Tens of thousands of people herded into camouflaged concentration camps and entire districts were liberated. The people's power was restored in 7 villages and 55 hamlets.

Mike Mansfield (Reuter, Feb. 12, 1968)

2. We know the war cannot be won militarily and there is a feeling in this country that Defense Secretary Robert McNamara has not given the American people the facts of the situation.

3. Recent events such as Viet Cong attacks on all of South Viet Nam principal cities — even the capital of Saigon - show that the South Vietnamese government is utterly inept, has in fact collapsed, and has no control over the country, despite out tremendous expenditures of money and lives, and dread ful losses among the Viet-

Ernest Gruening (AP, Feb. 24, 1968)

The End of a Myth

(Continued from base 2) the Americans. What can one say about a Nguyen Cao Ky who has publicly proclaimed his admiration for Hitler?

reasons for my proposal at this time. The time is ripe

U.S. casualties are reaching dreadful proportions and for a futile effort.

At every turn, the Vietnamese people's struggle has smashed the machinery painstakingly pieced together by Washington, and for years there has been an uninterrupt-ed succession of coups d'état and putsches, a round of "governments," the trying of the most diverse formulae, ending up with the Thieu-Ky clique, a gang torn by implac-able rivalries and hated by even the most moderate

Washington had thought that the massive presence of a U.S. expeditionary corpe would help consolidate the pupper regime. The contrary has happened. The extreme conduct of the war, the destruction of innumerable villages and localities, the use of sapalm, phosphorus, toxic chemicals, points gases, have samed up harted for the American in all goldones. of the population, including pupper soldiers and officials. The present of 500,000 G.I.'s present of soo ooo G.L's has produced an intolerable depravity of public morals

the family budgets of puppet soldiers and functionaries, themselves constantly offended by a racialist score on the part of the Amer-icans. American presence makes life unbearable to all: groups and individuals hith-erto submissive, even favour-able to the U.S., have joined in the anti-U.S. truggle.

The flimsy base of the puppet regime is collapsing: its component clements are crossing over to the side of the revolution. The forma-tion of the Alliance of National Forces for Inde-National Forces for Inde-pendence and Peace, that of the People's Revo-lutionary Committee in Thus Thien — Hue, herald a new, decisive stage in an irreversible process. All hope of patching up a more or less consistent puppet regime has definitely vanished. It can be nothing but a headless and limbless body.

and limbless body.

Yankee neo-colonialiam
badty needs a puppet regime
to camouflage its designs,
but of the fig-leat used to
cover up its nakedness,
nothing but shreds remain.

The inevitable failure of
American policy is inscribed American policy is inscribed in full in that one fact, and all the dollars of the world could do nothing about it.

WHAT IS GENERAL WHEELER ...

new plans, elaborate a new strategy." What strategy? Should one step beyond "limited warfare" as outlined in General Maxwell Taylor's famous "four points"? At the present international juncture, this would be a reckless adventure, and a suicidal step for Johnson in an election year.

So the only alternative that remains to a man like him. remains to a man like him, who is so completely con-vinced of American military superiority and so bent on keeping "U.S. commitments" to his South Victnamese creatures, is to continue the

war in the present way, but at a quickened tempo, which requires more troops and matériel. The sending of 100,000 more G.I.'s is already contemplated, and the ceiling of 525,000 men is thus to be raised. To get those 100,000 reinforcement troops, plans are a foot for calling up a non reservists and outting 50,000 reservists and putting 100,000 others on special alert. Only a few weeks ago, alert. Only a few weeks ago, Johnson balked at such meas-ures. At the same time, bombing of North Viet Nam is to be intensified, for as Wheeler declared in Bangkok, "atrong pressure" should be

maintained on the Com-Where would such a mi-Where would such a litary programme lead? Already, voices are being raised in Washington political raised in Washington political raised in Washington Political Region of the Political Region of the

observer can easily see, in the light of recent events in South Viet Nam, that defeat is inevitable for the Amercircles against it. Senat Robert Kennedy has stress that it would be irrational to send more troops to Viet Nam in view of the fact that the war is being very icans. What good could 100,000 more G.I.'s do, when half a million of their like badly conducted from badty conducted from a military point of view. Be-sides, new military efforts would entail more expendi-tures, which would weigh heavily on an ever-burdened had proved powerless? American troops have been stretched so thin, they flave been so completely submerged in the immense occan of the people's war, that even more military budget; this would mean that American citizens would have a heavier load to carry, starting with rising people's war, that even more important reinforcements would lead them nowhere. Where are those reinforce-ments to be sent in the first place? To Khe Sanh? Bo the Western High Plateaux? taxation and prices, not to mention loss of life for those sent to Viet Nam. This won't

mean more popularity for lohnson in an election year! Such measures would be understandable if they could "improve" U.S. lot in Viet Nam. But any intelligent

and inflation seriously affects

To the neighbourhood of Saigon? The American Command is completely ignorant of the direction of future statacks by the people's revolutionary forces! In North Peter Nam, the U.S. air force of escalation and the American air war of destruction has proved a complete flasco! The Wall Street Journal (Feb. 2) has written that one must be prepared to admit that all American efforts in Viet Nam are likely to end in failure. To that intelligent conclusion the Wheeler mis sion should have arrived at the end of its three-day stay

in Saigon, and its recommendations to President Johnson and his war council should be prompted by those swident facts.

P.I.A.F. SCORE NEW VICTORIES:

HUE: Over 1,000 Enemy Troops Put out of Action.

HIGHWAY No 9 : Ta Con Completely Encircled : Dong Ha, Con Tien under P.L.A.P. Artillery Fire.

NAM BO and WESTERN HIGH PLATEAUX: Tan Son What, Bien Hoz. Ben Tre Airfields Pounded; U.S. Barrecks at Cu Chi, Pleiku, Dakto, Kontum Violently Attacked.

BETWEEN Feb. 18 and 27, the P.L.A.F. continued to attack the enemy violently on all battlefields.

In Hee city they forced the enemy to show up in this desperate attempts to retake the city and inflicted heavy losses on him.

From Feb. 22 to 24, they foiled a dogen counter-statucks mounted by a dozen battalions of U.S. and pupped troops, harashed finit rescue parties, hilled of wounded parties, hilled of wounded company, burned 13 military vehicles, including 13 Mr.13 armoured carriers, sank of war vessels, diversely a mounter of the company to the property of the prope From Feb. 22 to 24.

On Feb. 27, the P.L.A.F. scored a direct hit at a U.S. landing craft on the Perfume River, 2km north of Hue. The craft was blown up and many G.L.'s on board ere killed

As the situation grew tense in Hue, the battle raged on the front north of Highway No 9. On Feb. 24 alone, the P.L.A.F. shot down 4 choppers, sank 4 vessels at Cua Viet and sent to the bottom 2 other boats at Dong Ha port. The following day, the P.L.A.F. tightened their encirclement around Ta Con. a few bilometres north of Khe Sanh. Seven G.I.'s who were repairing their materials and carrying away water brought in by choppers were killed by P.L.A.F. sniping fire. The rest ran back to their fortifications. When the their fortifications. When the enemy was compelled to send out troops to relieve the P.L.A.F. encirclement he had nearly one company wiped out, 117 U.S. Marines were killed on the battle-field. The defenders of Ta under sniping fire artiflery shells, had to

dig in deep in their fortis-cations. In one day Ta Con was shelled foot times. Its gun emplacements, radar site, assumentism derived the same ammentism derived were hit by the PLAF. artillery. Five belieopters, a munition with the properties of the U.S. Command was forted military vehicle were destroy-ed. That is why on Feb. 26, the U.S. Command was forted mission. Though progressing cautiously, the recuesing group suffered beavy losses, completely wiped out, having 78 men killed on the spot. The PLAF captured a great 4g machine gues and tomany-guns and two Gomm mortars. In a co-ordinated action

fina and two Gonos mortars. In a co-ordinated action with Ta Con, on Feb. 26, the PLAAF, heavily shelled the petrol dump, explosive depots and aircraft parting field at Deny Ma; the petrol dump nition depot below up. Many C. 130 four-engine freighter and choppers were destroyed. Con Then base and Heights 241 and 63, were heavily pounded and suffered great Fielding in the Many Employed.

damage.
Fighting in the Nam Be
(South Viet Nam proper) batthefield was also force. On Peb27, the P.L.A.F. attacked
simultaneously Tam Son Nat,
simultaneously Tam Son Nat,
simultaneously Tam Son Nat,
Signoni, The seemsy admitted
39 G.I.'s killed or wounded
and many aircraft destroyed
or damaged. On Feb. 28, the
P.L.A.F. intercepted a column of pupper paratroopers 6km north of Tan Son Nhat airbase, causing many casualties among them; they also shelled the base of U.S. Infantry Division 25 at Cu Chi, 32km northwest of Saigon.

In The Dau Met province, north of Saigon, on the night of Feb. 17, the P.L.A.F. attacked and occupied Dau Tieng townlet, hammered at

the enemy in Hon Quan town, the enemy in Hon Quan town, overran 6 posts along strategic Highway No 13, shelled Lai Khe and the base of Regiment 8, puppet Division 5, and rightwoy by a market and right and rightwoy by the second and intercepted, an enemy rescue party. In the battle given to an enemy column of feel accomment glass sorth of That Dau Mot town, the FLAAS On Feb. 20, they destroyed It anks, overran a post and wiped out Company 16, Battling a, papper Regiment, and captured so men in Ca Carlotte and the second party of th

Colm southwest of Sigon, the F.L.A.F, continued to attack the siems within and tatack the siems within and feel to the simulation of the s

Highway No 4.

Meanwhile, the P.L.A.F. continued to storm the remaining enemy bases in Sea Tre town. On the night of Feb. 23 slone, they caused the heavy damage to the military sector C.P. and the airfield, razed many posts of the ground and destroyed many bridges. the ground and many bridges.

In the Western High Plateaux, on the night of Feb. 18, the P.L.A.F. seized control of Dn Lat, killing or woundof Da Lat, killing or wound-ing 357 enemy soldiers. On the night of Feb. 26, they hammered at Holloway camp, time ast of Pielita town, in litting serious losses on the enemy. The following day, they assaulted many positions of U.S. Infantry Division 4, including these of Birgades 1 and a left the same di-vision, 20ths weet of Dak-tisin, 20ths weet of Dak-date of the same di-vision, 20ths weet of Dak-ford of the same diRECENT events in South Viet Nam having given him the jitters, President Johnson despatched General Wheeler to Saigno on a 3-day on the spot investigation. As soon as the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff returned to Washington, a war council was held and long sessions devoted to the search for a solution to a situation which was obviously a desperate one for the Yankee neo-colonialist

undertaking. Let us skip Wheeler's public declarations, which are but an expression of the feigned optimism in the Johnsonian tradition. Didn't he for instance proclaim, with deadpan seriousness, that the South The war brought into the midst of Saigon Itself which is subjected to daily attacks and bombardments by the People's Liberation Armed Forces; the American forces reduced to the defen-sive at admitted by Westforces reduced to the deten-sive, as admitted by West-moreland himself; the Amer-ican Command in disarray, not knowing what to do, completely in the dark as to the designs of its adversary;

the designs of its adversary;

— The U.S. "two-pronged strategy" doomed to failure; the famous "pacification" program gone bankrupt; the few villages having remained under U.S.—puppet control fallen in the people's hards beyond recovery, all forces having been withdrawn to

What Is General Wheeler Going to Propose to the White House?

Victnamese people's Tel of-fensive had resulted in a heavy defeat for the patriots, that the puppet samy had proved fe worth in those dramatics had by no means been cased by no means been cased by surprise, etc., etc.; Almost every report in the Western— particularly American—press ion a set to the tribute paid tions. As to the tribute paid Westmoreland by Wheeler, who assured him of President Johnson's "full confidence," can it be anything more than a stiffener for the sagging a stiffener for the morale of the 500,00 American expeditionary

Leaving the propaganda side out of count, the Wheeler mission must have sounded the alarm to the master of the White House. A somber picture indeed it had found in Saigon:

in Saigon:

—A 1,200,000-strong army composed of American, satelite and puppet troops completely powerless, and suffering heavy loneen, before tidal wave of the people's assults, which submerge the whole of South Vict Nam, including the urban laim of the Americans and their puppets;

defend the cities;

The puppet administra-tion and army, the two pillars of U.S. neo-colonialism, in full disintegration. in full disintegration; the third of the Saigon troops disbanded, the rest thrown into disarry, their morale disbanded, the rest thrown into disarry, their morale sinking and their combative-ness vanishing fast; the Thieu-Ky clique more and more isolated and torn up more isolated and torn up by internal rivalries (exacer-bated by defeat), as evidenced by arrests in Saigon and purges of senior officers of the puppet army:

the puppet army:

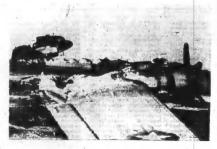
— Beyond the frontiers of South Viet Nam, the ever-more difficult position of the Americans and their local alies" in Laca, suffer the blown of the Lao patriots, while North Viet Nam, the Great Rear of the Southern revolutionary forces, stands firmer than ever.

Such was the situation before General Wheeler's eyes. Now, what could be recom-mend to the White House?

As stressed by an AFP cor respondent in a despatch from Saigon dated Feb. 23. "it is from such bitter facts "it is from such bitter that one must work

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REPEATED ATTACKS ON TAN SON NHAT AIRBASE



P.LA.F. after Nhat airfield

AN SON NHAT is the fifth busiest airport in the world. The H.Q.of General West-H.Q.of General West-moreland is located there. The enemy brag that this airbase is protected by 21 rows of barbed wire and various kinds of mines, patrolled every 15 minutes in the night by a U.S. convoy and possesses a system of in the night of a U.S. control and possesses a system of powerful searchlights which can light up a region within dozen kilometres, thus making it impossible for any Liberation fighter to sneak in. Fathon fighter to sneak in. Yet between Jan. 31 and Feb. 27, 1968, this airbase was the target of more than ten powerful attacks of the revolutionary armed forces of Saigon-Gia Dinh.

On Jan. 31, at 2.30 a.m., after a heavy artillery shel-ling, the Liberation lighters broke into the airfield in many columns and assaulted

many times the U.S. Staff The clatter of rifles, machine guns and explosions of band grenades resounded from all grenades resounded from all sides. Taken unawares, the U.S. and the puppet com-mands were in a turmoil, their rank - and file, fled helter-skelter. The command-er of U.S. Air Wing No 7, had to call in armed belicophad to call in armed neucop-ters from other places to bomb the barracks in the airfield though a great num-ber of wounded puppet abi-diers had not been evacuated. As most of the searchlights were destroyed, the enemy had to send up flares without up to get control of the area

The following days, the revolutionary forces occupied the northern and western parts of the airbase and other places. On the night of Feb. 3, they struck directly

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